



# CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

## 24-HOUR REPORT

20 APRIL 2021

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### (U) CALIFORNIA

#### (U) Orange – Man Held for Allegedly Attacking and Harassing Asian Americans

(U) A man who said he hates Asians was arrested on suspicion of assaulting an elderly Korean American couple at a Southern California park after allegedly threatening violence against a Japanese American Olympic athlete, police said. Michael Orlando Vivona, 25, was arrested Sunday on suspicion of elder abuse and committing a hate crime. Vivona allegedly attacked a 79-year-old man and an 80-year-old woman as they took an evening walk at Grijalva Park. The suspect approached, unprovoked, and punched both of them in the face, causing both of them to fall to the ground. Other people at the scene surrounded Vivona, who was wearing the same clothing as in an earlier attack, and kept him surrounded until police arrived to arrest him.

SOURCE: 19 April 2021, [AP News](#)

#### (U) Sacramento – Former EDD Worker Pleads Guilty in Unemployment Fraud Case

(U) Andrea Marie Gervais, 44, a former California Employment Development Department (EDD) worker, pleaded guilty Monday in federal court in Sacramento. Gervais allegedly filed 100 phony unemployment claims including one in the name of US Senator Dianne Feinstein. Gervais first came to investigators' attention on 1 December 2020, when Bank of America officials alerted authorities that a California unemployment profile was opened in the name of a US Senator. The charge could net Gervais up to 10-years in prison and a \$250,000 fine, and payment of restitution.

SOURCE: 19 April 2021, [Sacramento Bee](#)

#### (U) San Francisco – Codecov Hackers Breached Hundreds of Restricted Customer Sites

(U) Hackers who tampered with a software development tool from a company called Codecov used that program to gain restricted access to hundreds of networks belonging to the San Francisco firm's customers. Codecov makes software auditing tools that allow developers to see how thoroughly their own code is being tested, a process that can give the tool access to stored credentials for various internal software accounts. The attackers used automation to rapidly copy those credentials and raid additional resources, expanding the breach beyond the initial disclosure by Codecov.

SOURCE: 19 April 2021, [Reuters](#)

### (U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

#### (U) California – Woman Caught with Heroin and Cocaine in Her Vehicle

(U) San Clemente – US Border Patrol agents arrested a woman transporting more than 21-pounds of heroin and cocaine in her vehicle in San Clemente. Agents pulled over 22-year-old female US citizen traveling in a silver Mercedes C300 northbound on Interstate 5. While agents questioned her, a K9 alerted agents to the trunk of the vehicle. Inside the vehicle's trunk, agents discovered nine wrapped packages consistent with the characteristics of narcotics smuggling. The nine packages weighed more than 21-pounds and contained 11.5-pounds of heroin and 9.8-pounds of cocaine. The narcotics have an estimated street value of \$250,425.

SOURCE: 19 April 2021, [Charlotte Alerts](#)

**(U) NATIONAL**

**(U) District of Columbia – Two Proud Boys Jailed Pending Trial in Capitol Riot Conspiracy Case**

(U) Washington DC – A federal judge on Monday ordered two alleged leaders of the far-right extremist group the Proud Boys detained pending trial on conspiracy and other charges tied to the deadly 6 January attack on the US Capitol. The US District Judge found that the evidence presented so far in the case weighs in favor of jailing Ethan Nordean and Joseph Biggs ahead of their trial. Both men had been released, but the government renewed its request to have them returned to custody after they were indicted. Nordean and Biggs along with two other alleged Proud Boy leaders — Zach Rehl and Charles Donohoe — are facing six counts, including obstruction of an official proceeding, obstruction of law enforcement, destruction of government property, and conspiracy.

SOURCE: 19 April 2021, [NPR](#)

**(U) Indiana – Gunman Browsed White Supremacist Websites One Year Before FedEx Shooting**

(U) Indianapolis – The gunman in the Indianapolis shooting that left eight people dead at a FedEx facility browsed White supremacist websites a little over a year before the attack, police said. In March 2020, the mother of the FedEx gunman contacted police because she was worried about his behavior after he purchased a gun. The mother told police he was going to point his shotgun at police officers so they would shoot him. Police investigating the home observed that he had visited white supremacist websites. Investigators are still reviewing all information to determine the primary motive behind the shooting.

SOURCE: 20 April 2021, [CNN](#)

**(U) Minnesota – Felon Charged with Illegal Possession of a Firearm**

(U) Minneapolis – An acting US Attorney announced a federal criminal complaint charging Andrew Thomas, 28, with being a felon in possession of a firearm. Thomas was identified as the driver of an SUV involved in a shooting during the evening hours of 18 April. Two soldiers of the Minnesota National Guard sustained non-life-threatening injuries from the drive-by shooting. After conducting a felony stop of the SUV, officers recovered a Springfield Armory XD-9 mm semi-automatic pistol, a .22 caliber revolver with an obliterated serial number, ammunition, and two discharged cartridge casings. Due to prior felony convictions, Thomas is prohibited under federal law from possessing firearms or ammunition at any time.

SOURCE: 19 April 2021, [Department of Justice](#)

**(U) INTERNATIONAL**

**(U) Australia – Men Jailed for California Drug Scheme**

(U) Melbourne – Former RAAF pilot Hugh Gorman, 75, is behind bars over his failed plan to fly 180-kgs of methamphetamines to Australia. Gorman and his co-conspirator Peter Caluzzi, 61, were motivated by financial gain and had become tangled in an intercontinental drug plot to traffic methamphetamines to Melbourne. The plot involved Gorman making multiple trips to the United States to purchase a Cessna Silver Eagle plane, which was refitted with an additional fuel tank in which the drugs were to be stashed. It was intended that Gorman would load the drugs into the plane and then fly it from California to Melbourne, making 13 stops along the way while keeping in contact with Caluzzi and the wider syndicate by satellite phone as he crossed the Pacific Ocean.

SOURCE: 19 April 2021, [Australia Associated Press](#)

## UNCLASSIFIED

### **(U) Canada – Trial Underway for California Couple Charged with Drug Possession Border Crossing**

(U) Lethbridge – A jury trial is underway in Lethbridge for a couple charged in relation to what the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) and the Canadian Border Services Agency called a record drug bust at the Coutts Border Crossing in 2017. Gurinder Toor and Kirandeep Toor, both from California, were charged after more than 200-pounds of suspected cocaine was found during an inspection of a commercial truck. The truck was hauling a load of produce from California to a business in Alberta. Law enforcement said while searching the cab of the vehicle, officers opened a microwave and found bricks of a suspected narcotic. Further search of the cab found a total of 84 bricks. RCMP said the street value of the drugs recovered ranges from \$6.7 to \$8.4 million.

SOURCE: 19 April 2021, [Global News](#)

### **(U) Chad – President Idriss Déby Dies Fighting Rebels After Three Decades in Power**

(U) N'Djamena – The president of Chad, Idriss Déby, a close Western military ally, died on Tuesday from wounds sustained on the battlefield fighting rebels, the military said. Déby, 68, had just been announced as the winner of a sixth term in office. He ran largely unopposed in a country he has ruled with an iron fist for the past 30-years, making him one of Africa's longest-ruling leaders. Army spokesman General Azem Bermandoa said in a statement that Déby died defending territorial integrity on the battlefield after visiting Chadian troops on the front lines. Bermandoa said a transitional military council headed by Déby's son General Mahamat Kaka would run the country for the next 18-months.

SOURCE: 20 April 2021, [Washington Post](#)

**(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.**

**(U) FOR QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE EMAIL [STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV](mailto:STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV), OR CALL 916-636-2900.**

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